



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

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Depot completes weapons destruction project

The Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah, recently reached a milestone by incinerating the last of the deadly chemical VX and GB agents stored at the west desert facility.

The depot holds the largest chemical weapons stockpile in the United States. Under an international treaty, the United States must destroy all chemical weapons and nerve agents by 2012.

The facility is one of eight around the country disposing of the weapons, some of which date back to the 1940s. In May, the Pentagon recommended closing Deseret Chemical Depot once its munitions mission is complete. That decision is still pending the approval of the Base Realignment and Closure Committee.

Depot staff estimate a final closure of the facility could come in 2012, the target date for completing the destruction of about 125,000 mustard-gas munitions.

AMC band receives Army Superior Unit Award

The Secretary of the Army has awarded the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own), the Army Superior Unit Award for "outstanding meritorious performance while in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom."

Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, recently presented the award during a ceremony at the band's practice facility at APG.

The band received the award for deploying overseas to entertain troops in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan over the holiday seasons in 2003 and 2004. They are scheduled to do the same this year.

"You make people feel good," Nadeau said. "It sounds simple but it's 100 percent on the mark. You put people at ease at a time when there are any number of reasons for them not to be."

Nadeau presented the award to enlisted bandleader Sgt. Maj. David M. Oberg, who submitted the unit's name for the award.

"This band is capable of doing a lot of missions," Oberg said, noting that he has traveled to several countries and more than 20 states during his two and one-half years with the band.

AFSC lawyer named Attorney of the Year

A graduate of Illinois State University and DePaul University Law School was recently named the U.S. Army Materiel Command's Attorney of the Year.

David DeFrieze, an employee of the U.S. Army Field Support Command headquartered at Rock Island Arsenal, was bestowed the honor mostly for his legal work with the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program.

"I often describe my job as working for the world's largest law firm," DeFrieze said. "When I am working an issue, I can tap into a brain trust of attorneys throughout my organization. There are a phenomenal number of people helping to accomplish the mission."

DeFrieze deployed five times to Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan to work legal issues within LOGCAP, a program designed to provide logistics, engineering and construction services and support for contingency operations worldwide through the deployment of civilian contractors.